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Comments for the FCC Regional Hearing
Duke University, Durham, North Carolina
March 31, 2003

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I am totally opposed to expanding the number of stations owned by the media giants; there is far too much of the same narrow view presented by a few media corporations who control most of the stations in this country. As I see it, the opinions of the owners too often are presented as news. It is important that the greatest variety of programming be available on a local level to serve all populations.

I hope priority will be given to restoring National Public Radio stations to frequencies that permit these stations to be heard in every part of the United States. Why have other stations been assigned frequencies that crowd these stations off the air? With the current potential for national emergencies related to terrorism, it is crucial that anyone traveling in any area be able to access these stations for authoritative, immediate emergency information. Other stations are overpowering public radio stations, and I am unable to find one in many places where I travel.

Also, I believe all cable networks should be required to carry all C-Span television channels since cable subscribers are assessed fees that go to

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C-Span. In my opinion, National Public Radio and C-Span are the only stations that have fair and unbiased news on a consistent basis. A majority of the other commercial media seems to be taking one viewpoint for news with some networks reporting blatantly for one political party. Opposing viewpoints are either not presented or the "news" about a different political party is presented in a negative way with an antagonistic editorial viewpoint

Ina Kimbrough
P. O. Box 533
Florence, MS 39073